A scheme has been introduced to grant autonomy to deserving colleges.

Model curricula has been prepared for various disciplines for upgradation of the syllabi at undergraduate and postgraduate levels.

Financial assistance is provided for improvement of teaching and research under special assistance programmes such as, Centres of Advanced Study; Departments of Special Assistance, Strengthening of the Infrastructure in Science and Technology; etc.

Inter-University Centres have been set up to provide front-line facilities and services for advancement of research in the university stystem.

दिल्ली से शिर्डी तक सुपरफास्ट रेलगाड़ी चलाने की मांग

4022. **श्री ज्ञान रंजन:** क्या रेल मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या यह सच है कि लाखों-करोड़ों श्रद्धालु शिर्डी में सांईबाबा के मंदिर जाते हैं परंतु कोपरगांव रेलवे स्टेशन से मंदिर तक जाने के लिए कोई सुविधा नहीं है;

(ख) क्या सरकार बाबा के भक्तों को पेश आ रही कठिनाइयों को देखते हुए शिर्डी सांई स्टेशन और दिल्ली से शिर्डी तक सुपरफास्ट रेलगाड़ी चलाने का विचार रखती है; और

(ग) यदि हां, तो कब तक?

रेल मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री सतपाल महाराज): (क) जी हां, बहरहाल, उनके लिए मनमाड से कोपरगांव तक एक अच्छी सड़क सुविधा है।

(ख) और (ग) प्रश्न नहीं उठता क्योंकि शिरडी सांई नाम का कोई स्टेशन नहीं है।

Newsreport on urea packaging deal scandal

4023. SHRI SATISH AGARWAL:
SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL:

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a news-item published in the Financial Express dated the 26th August, 1996, captioned "NFL bags 10 crore loss in packing deal scandal";

(b) whether it is a fact that the National Fertilizers Ltd. (NFL) procured sub-standard plastic and jute bags for urea packaging worth Rs.50 crores; and

(c) if so, what are the details/reasons for NFL's contravention of standardized bidding procedures and purchase orders and whether any inquiry has been made against this fraudulent transaction by NFL officials?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SHEES RAM OLA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Based on a preliminary inquiry conducted by National Fertilizers Ltd., it is observed that there is a *prima-facie* case of irregularity in the matter of purchase of bagging material by the Bhatinda unit of National Fertilizers Ltd. It has accordingly been decided to entrust the case to the Central Bureau of Investigation for detailed investigation. In the meantime, four officers involved in the matter have been placed under suspension.

Appointment of Bonafide Students in DMS Milk Booths

4024. DR. RANBIR SINGH:
SHRI RAM NATH KOVIND:

Will the Minister of ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Delhi Milk Scheme appoints bonafide students to market

milk through its booths in different parts of Delhi;

(b) if so, the details of the fomalities to be completed by desiring students;

(c) whether the appointed students are also given some designation, salary and have some fixed working hours; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH): (a) to (d) Students who are matric and above are appointed Senior Depot Agents and Depot Agents in DMS booths. The minimum age of Senior Depot Agent is 18 and of Depot Agent 16. They work for 1 1/2 hours in a shift and are paid a commission of Rs. 8/- and Rs. 6/- respectively per shift. A cash security of Rs. 1500 is taken from Senior depot agents by deducting from the Commission due to them in instalments.

बनारस हिन्दू विश्वविद्यालय में नियुक्तियां

4025. **श्री ईश दत्त यादव:** क्या मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या बनारस हिन्दू विश्वविद्यालय ने शिक्षण और शिक्षणेत्तर श्रेणी के 540 पदों को भरने हेतु विज्ञापन संख्या 1/1994-95 प्रकाशित किया था और उन पदों हेतु उम्मीदवारों का चयन किया गया था;

(ख) इन पदों में से अन्य पिछड़े वर्गों हेतु कितने पद आरक्षित थे;

(ग) क्या अन्य पिछड़े वर्गों के उम्मीदवारों से इन वर्गों हेतु अरक्षित कोटा भर दिया गया था, यदि हां, तो अन्य पिछड़े वर्गों के चयनित उम्मीदवारों की संख्या कितनी है; और

(घ) यदि इन पदों हेतु किया गया चयन अनियमित हुआ है और अन्य पिछड़े वर्गों के कोटे को संबंधित उम्मीदवारों को आरक्षण का लाभ देकर नहीं भरा गया है, तो सरकार इस संबंध में क्या कार्रवाई कर रही है?

मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्रालय में शिक्षा विभाग में राज्य मंत्री (श्री मुही राम सैकिया): (क) से (घ) सूचना एकत्र की जा रही है और सभा पटल पर रख दी जाएगी।

Details of AMS of Wheat and Rice

4026. SHRI BHUPINDER SINGH MANN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of Aggregate Measurement of Support (AMS) on wheat and rice in the reference period of Uruguay Round of GATT negotiations in 1986—89; and

(b) what was the same for the above in 1995?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRIU CHATURANAN MISHRA): (a) The Aggregate Measurement of Support (AMS) in respect of major 17 crops including wheat and rice, calculated for the reference period of 1986—89 for the prupose of Uruguary Round of GATT negotiations may kindly be seen in the statement (*see* below).

(b) The Aggregate Measurement of Support was calculated for the reference period of 1986—89 only, as required under the GATT.